

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 20-2066V

UNPUBLISHED

GEORGE HEIDRICH,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: June 23, 2022

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;
Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine
Administration (SIRVA)

Leigh Finfer, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for Petitioner.

Meghan Murphy, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On December 30, 2020, George Heidrich filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered a Table injury – Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) – as a result of his November 8, 2019 influenza (“flu”) vaccine. Petition at 1. Petitioner further alleges that the vaccine was administered within the United States, that he suffered the residual effects of his injury for more than six months, and that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action on his behalf as a result of his injury. See Petition at 1, ¶¶ 1, 17, 19. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

¹ Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

On June 21, 2022, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case, as Petitioner has satisfied the criteria set forth in the Vaccine Injury Table ("Table"). Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report at 1, 5. Specifically, Respondent indicates that

petitioner had no history of pain or dysfunction in his left shoulder prior to the influenza vaccine; pain likely occurred within 48 hours after receipt of an intramuscular vaccination; the pain and reduced range of motion were limited to the shoulder in which the vaccine was administered; and no other condition or abnormality would explain petitioner's symptoms.

Id. at 5. Respondent further agrees that "the statutory six-month sequelae requirement has been satisfied. See *id.* § 300aa-11(c)(D)(I). Therefore, based on the record as it now stands, petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act." *Id.*

In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master